



*LeadingAge*<sup>®</sup>

**The Trusted Voice  
for Aging in America**

**LeadingAge.org**

# LeadingAge Georgia

**State Partner of LeadingAge National**

**By Ginny Helms, President, LeadingAge Georgia**

# LeadingAge Georgia -- Who we Are

Our **vision** is to be the trusted voice in aging services

Our **mission** is to advocate for and support our **mission-driven** members who serve older adults

We provide **advocacy, education** and **forums for idea sharing** for members who provide housing and services throughout the continuum of care. That includes independent living (including affordable HUD for seniors), adult day, assisted living, nursing homes, life plan communities, in-home care and hospice care



## HUD residents are aging in place and in need of supportive services

As the residents age in place, they have cognitive challenges and chronic conditions that require oversight and assistance with daily living.

With limited income these individuals can't afford assisted living care.

Medicaid funded personal care homes typically have waiting lists.

As their health declines, most HUD residents either die in their HUD community or go to nursing homes.

These HUD residents could stay in their communities with oversight and assistance with daily living – if Medicaid funding for personal care homes or assisted living level of care could be made available in HUD communities.

# Assisted Living Models Funded Through Medicaid in Other States

44 States, including Georgia, provide Medicaid funded “assisted living” either through their residential options or their home and community based options.

The definition of assisted living varies and can include personal care services, senior living residences, sheltered housing and memory care facilities.

# How do States Provide Medicaid HCBS?

- Medicaid State Plan
  - Entitlement (assuming income eligible)
- Waiver Services
  - Must meet income and medical eligibility
  - Can be “tailored”, e.g. dementia, frail elderly
  - Generally “capped”, finite number of “slots”
  - Waiting Lists

# Examples of Medicaid Assisted Living Rates by State as of September 2019

Illinois	\$65.98 to \$85.55    Dementia Rate \$83.78 to \$113.29
Massachusetts	One Rate \$104.53
Oklahoma	\$47.10 Standard; \$63.55 Intermediate; \$88.90 High Care
Indiana	\$71.27 Basic; \$78.54 Enhanced, \$86.68 Intensive
Nevada	\$52 Level 1; \$69 Level 2; \$83 Level 3
Maryland	\$62.15 Level 2; \$78.43 Level 3
Arkansas	One Rate \$75.97
Montana	One Rate \$74.08
Minnesota	Varies by Case Mix Median Rate in the \$70s/day
Ohio	One Rate \$68.98
Mississippi	One Rate \$54.05 (plus admin costs for case management)
South Dakota	One Rate \$50.25

The Georgia Medicaid Personal Care Home Rate is \$50

## Share of Medicaid Long-term Care Services that are HCBS as of 2016

- National Average: 27%

- Georgia: 20%

- Florida: 7%

- South Carolina: 17%

- North Carolina: 38%

- Tennessee: N/A

- Alabama: 11%

# Examples of Assisted Living Waiver Costs to States

State	Waiver Name	Eligibility	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Year 1 Slots	Year 1 Total Estimated costs	Year 1 Per Person Estimated Costs	Other benefits offered
Arkansas	Living Choices Assisted Living	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 21-64	2/1/2016	1/31/2021	1,300	\$26,145,883	\$20,112	Extended Medicaid State Plan Prescription Drugs
California	Assisted Living	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 21-64	3/1/2019	2/29/2024	7,409	\$177,190,993	\$23,916	Care coordination, residential habilitation, augmented plan of care development and follow-up, NF transition care coordination
Illinois	Supportive Living Program	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 22-64	10/23/2017	10/22/2022	12,132	\$174,108,810	\$14,351	N/A
Mississippi	Assisted Living	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 21-64	10/1/2018	9/30/2023	895	\$14,464,050	\$16,161	N/A (note: waiver also provides adult residential care for adults with TBI, but state estimates 5 people would enroll for that benefit)
Ohio	Assisted Living	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 21-64	7/1/2019	6/30/2024	5,199	\$57,876,089	\$11,132	Community transition services
Virginia	Alzheimer's Assisted Living	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 18-64	7/1/2013	6/30/2018	200	\$2,366,100	\$11,831	N/A
Wyoming	Assisted Living Facility HCBS	Adults 65+ and adults with physical disabilities 19-64	7/1/2014	6/30/2019	191	\$2,546,758	\$13,334	Case management



# Policy Considerations

- ✓ Seniors in HUD (affordable housing) are aging in place and in need of more support due to dementia and chronic conditions
- ✓ A model of paying for personal care services in HUD communities would leverage the federal funding for housing and offer care that would save the state more expensive nursing home care – until nursing home care is needed
- ✓ It would be ideal to have Medicaid funding of personal care homes of 45-60 beds to allow supportive services including a wellness nurse
- ✓ We also need to provide behavioral health coaches to address un-met behavioral health needs

# Policy Considerations

- ✓ Skilled nursing care is a vital service and the Medicaid funding for assisted living should not take funding from skilled nursing care
- ✓ Individuals should be assessed to determine if Medicaid funded personal care/assisted living care could meet their needs or they need skilled care. National average \$70/day vs \$200/day
- ✓ The Medicaid rate should be adjusted upwards for nursing homes to reflect the more acute care they are providing
- ✓ There needs to be an adequate Medicaid rate for personal care homes/assisted living
- ✓ New funding will be needed given the waiting list for CCSP

# Contact Information

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